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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of:

INOUE, Masaru, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1725

Serial No.: 10/646,818

Examiner: Samuel N. Heinrich

Filed: August 25, 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1815

For: THIN PLATE FORMATION METHOD, THIN PLATE AND SUSPENSION
CORRECTION APPARATUS, AND CORRECTION METHOD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 8, 2005

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of March 9, 2005, requiring restriction among four alleged inventions under the provisions of 35 USC § 121.

In the Action, the examiner made a restriction requirement between the inventions of **Group I** drawn to methods of using a laser (claims 1-5); **Group II** drawn to an article of manufacture (claim 6); **Group III** drawn to a laser apparatus (claims 7 and 8); and **Group IV** drawn to a computer program (claim 9).

Applicants hereby provisionally elect **Group I**, that is, **claims 1-5**, for examination on the merits in this application. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

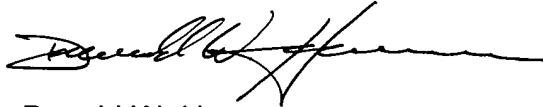
Serial No.: 10/646,818
OA dated March 9, 2005
Resp dated April 8, 2005

Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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